

CYPERUS ACUMINATUS Torrey & Hooker
Pale Umbrella-sedge

FAMILY: Cyperaceae

HABIT: Tufted annual or short-lived perennial, 0.5-3.5 dm.; fruiting August-October.

SIMILAR SPECIES: Superficially resembles most other low, tufted species of *Cyperus*. Close examination of technical characters of scales and achenes is necessary for identification. Most closely resembles *C. inflexus*, from which it may be distinguished as follows: *C. acuminatus*—tips of scales spreading, scales obscurely nerved or nerveless; *C. inflexus*—tips of scales recurved, scales distinctly nerved.

TOTAL RANGE: IL to ND, MO, TX, and n. Mexico, e. occasionally to OH, KY, and w. NC, and w. irregularly to the Pacific.

STATE RANGE (as of 2008): Post-1980 records are from Butler, Franklin, Lucas, Pickaway, and Ross counties.

HABITAT: A variety of open, wet, sandy situations; shores, seepages, fields.

HAZARDS: Overshading by woody species as a result of succession; sudden changes in water levels.

RECOVERY POTENTIAL: Unknown, probably poor.

INVENTORY GUIDELINES: Collect complete mature specimens.

COMMENTS: This small umbrella-sedge is easily overlooked and/ or misidentified. It should be sought throughout Ohio. It may be more frequent than the few records indicate.

SELECTED REFERENCES:

Denton, W.F. 1978. A taxonomic treatment of the Luzulae group of *Cyperus*. Contrib. Univ. Mich. Herb. 11: 197-271.

Gleason, H.A., and A. Cronquist. 1991. Manual of vascular plants of northeastern United States and adjacent Canada. New York Botanical Garden, Bronx, New York. 910 pp.

Voss, E.G. 1972. Michigan flora, Part I, Gymnosperms and monocots. Cranbrook Inst. of Sci. Bull. 55, Bloomfield Hills, MI. 488 p.



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